

Message Text

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OSD/ISA/EUR:COL. BOWEN

EUR/CE:MR. JOHNSON

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CHMAAG ROME IT

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 161006

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: MARR, IT

SUBJECT: AN/MS-60 SATELLITE GROUND TERMINAL ITALY

REFS: A. ROME 8587 (NOTAL)

B. STATE 116988 (NOTAL)

C. ROME 8527 (NOTAL)

AMEMB ROME FOR MR. J. DEVINE.

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CHMAAG ITALY ROME FOR COL. JOHNSON, CHIEF AIR FORCE SECTION.

1. AS ARRANGED REF A, CAPT WILSON (OPNAV) AND COL. JOHNSON, MET WITH COL. SABBATINI, ITALIAN AIR MINISTRY ON 25 JUNE 74, AND DISCUSSED SUBJECT INSTALLATION AT THE PREVIOUSLY SELECTED LAGO DI PATRIA SITE. THE PRIMARY PURPOSE FOR THE MEETING WAS TO ASCERTAIN ITALIAN RESERVATIONS CONCERNING THE LOCATION OF THE TERMINAL IN RELATION TO PROPOSED COMMERCIAL AIRPORT IN THE LAGO DI PATRIA AREA. FROM THE MEETING, THE FOLLOWING CONCLUSIONS WERE DRAWN:

A. THE PRIMARY AIR MINISTRY CONCERN WAS THAT THE TERMINAL MIGHT CONSTITUTE A HAZARDOUS APPROACH OBSTACLE TO THE RUNWAYS OF THE PROPOSED AIRPORT. FINITE GEOGRAPHIC COORDINATES FOR THE PLANNED AN/MSC-60 WITHIN THE LAGO DI PATRIA COMPOUND HAD NOT BEEN SPECIFIED TO THE ITALIANS.

B. COL. SABBATINI WAS NOT CONCERNED THAT THE AN/MSC-60 SUPER HIGH FREQUENCY (SHF) SIGNAL WOULD CAUSE ELECTROMAGNETIC INTERFERENCE (EMI) IMPINGING ON OPERATION OF NEW AIRPORT. HOWEVER, HE WAS CONCERNED THAT AIRPORT OPERATIONS, INCLUDING UHF NAVIGATIONAL AIDS, WOULD INTERFERE WITH RECEIPT OF UHF SIGNAL AT THE BROADCAST TRANSMITTER FROM THE SATELLITE.

C. IN VIEW OF POSSIBLE INTERFERENCE BETWEEN THE TERMINAL AND NEW AIRPORT OPERATION, COL. SABBATINI FELT THAT NATO SITE AT LICOLA WOULD PROBABLY BE MUCH MORE DESIRABLE FOR TERMINAL THAN LAGO DI PATRIA.

D. ALTHOUGH ITALIAN PLANS FOR THE AIRPORT LOCATION HAVE BEEN REASONABLY FIRM SINCE LATE 1972, THOSE PLANS MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. COL. SABBATINI COULD PROVIDE NO ESTIMATE AS TO WHEN THE PLANS WOULD BE IMPLEMENTED.

2. SUBSEQUENT TO REF B, CONSTRUCTION COMMENCEMENT DATE FOR THE ANTENNA BASE AT LAGO DI PATRIA HAS BEEN RENEGOTIATED WITH THE CONTRACTOR TO PROVIDE FOR CONSTRUCTION TO BEGIN NOT EARLIER THAN 1 MAY 1975. HOWEVER, IN
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THE INTEREST OF FIRM PLANNING AND ECONOMIES, IT IS CONSIDERED PRUDENT TO OBTAIN GOI APPROVAL OF A SITE FOR THE SUBJECT TERMINAL AT THE EARLIEST PRACTICABLE TIME, AND NO LATER THAN 1 FEB 1975. UNLESS YOU PERCEIVE OBJECTIONS, REQUEST THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION BE PROVIDED TO THE ITALIAN MINISTRY OF DEFENSE:

A. CLEARANCE FOR THE AN/MSC-60 INSTALLATION IS DESIRED

AS EARLY AS PRACTICABLE TO FACILITATE PLANNING AND TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE BY 1 FEB 1975.

B. THE UNSURVEYED COORDINATES OF THE PROPOSED AN/MS-60 INSTALLATION AT LAGO DI PATRIA ARE 40-55-43-N AND 14-2-57E. THESE COORDINATES WILL BE CONFIRMED ASAP BY SURVEY TEAM UNDER USUAL CLEARANCE PROCEDURES AND CAN THEN BE PROVIDED TO AIR MINISTRY BY CHMAAG.

C. A SITE SURVEY AND EMI STUDY WILL BE CONDUCTED IN THE NEAR FUTURE TO ASSURE THE ABSENCE OF MUTUAL HAZARDOUS AND ELECTRIC INTERFERENCE. IN THIS REGARD, IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF ITALIAN AUTHORITIES COULD PROVIDE TO CHMAAG FOR USE BY SURVEY TEAM A GEOGRAPHICAL CHART SHOWING THE PROPOSED AIRPORT ARRANGEMENT IN SUFFICIENT DETAIL TO FACILITATE SITE CONFIRMATION AT LAGO DI PATRIA IN RELATION TO AIRPORT RUNWAYS AND APPROACHES.

3. THE SURVEY TEAM WILL ALSO CONDUCT A SIMILAR SURVEY/

STUDY AT THE NATO/USN HF RADIO TRANSMITTER SITE AT LICOLA TO ASCERTAIN ITS SUITABILITY AS A FALL-BACK LOCATION FOR THE AN/MS-60 AND THE AN/TSC-54 ALREADY IN PLACE AT LAGO DI PATRIA.

4. AFTER COMPLETION OF SITE SURVEYS/STUDIES, DEPT AND DOD WILL PROVIDE DRAFT EXCHANGE OF NOTES REFERRED TO IN REFS A AND C. KISSINGER

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